

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) Device for supporting at least one barrel comprising at least two posts (14), characterized in that it comprises at least two support means (16) for at least one barrel, connected in overhanging fashion to the posts (14) and disposed on opposite sides of the posts (14) so as to balance the loads.

2. (original) Device according to claim 1, characterized in that at least one of the posts (14) is prestressed.

3. (original) Device according to claim 2, characterized in that the prestressed post or posts (14) each comprise at least one hollow element in which is disposed a tension member (18) permitting exerting a compressive force.

4. (currently amended) Device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterized in that the support means (16) are in the form of an incurved surface (28), adapted to the shape of the barrel.

5. (original) Device according to claim 4, characterized in that the surface (28) of the support means (16) comprise lugs (32).

6. (currently amended) Device according to ~~any one~~ of claims 1 to 5 claim 2, characterized in that the support means (16) comprise a cross piece (34) ensuring the connection between at least two posts (14).

7. (original) Device according to claim 6, characterized in that at least one hollow element (36), particularly a tube, is connected to one of the ends of the cross piece (34), said tube (36) constituting a hollow element of a post (14).

8. (original) Device according to claim 7, characterized in that a tube (36) is provided at each end of the cross piece (34).

9. (currently amended) Device according to ~~claims 2 and 8~~ claim 8, characterized in that a prestressed post (14) comprises at least one tube (36) for joining the support means (16) and generally but not necessarily at least one tube (38) called a cross bar.

10. (currently amended) Device according to ~~any one~~ of claims 3 to 9 claim 3, characterized in that a prestressed post (14) can comprise at least one ring (46) disposed between the tension member (18) and the tubular element or elements, the internal diameter of the ring (46) being substantially adjusted to the external diameter of the tension member (18) and the external diameter of the ring being adjusted to the internal diameter of the tubular element or elements.

11. (original) Device according to claim 10, characterized in that the ring (46) comprises at least one projecting element, particularly a small collar (48), adapted to be disposed between the tubular elements.

12. (currently amended) Device according to claim 10 [[or 11]], characterized in that the edges of the ring (46), particularly those in contact with the tension member (18), are chamfered or rounded so as to reduce the phenomena of incipient rupture.

13. (currently amended) Device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, characterized in that the support means (16) comprise bearing points (50) for the barrels whose position is adjustable as a function of the size of the barrels.

14. (original) Device according to claim 13, characterized in that the bearing points (50) comprise a roller (52) connected to an axle (54), the position o

15. (new) Device according to claim 2, characterized in that the support means (16) comprise a cross piece (34) ensuring the connection between at least two posts (14).

16. (new) Device according to claim 11, characterized in that the edges of the ring (46), particularly those in contact with the tension member (18), are chamfered or rounded so as to reduce the phenomena of incipient rupture.